

T H E C L E V E L A N D M U S E U M O F A R T

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OLD MASTER SECRETS REVEALED AT MUSEUM

The most intimate secrets of the world's great artists will be shown to area residents on Wednesday when OLD MASTER DRAWINGS FROM CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD, opens to the public at The Cleveland Museum of Art.

According to Sherman E. Lee, the Museum's director, the Oxford collection represents "the most stunning drawing show we've been able to get in ten years". Dr. Lee referred to an exhibition of drawings from Chatsworth, the home of the Dukes of Devonshire which was lent to Cleveland in 1963.

"The English somehow have developed a tradition of connoisseurship in this field," he went on, adding that "English collectors have learned that a drawing is like a private conversation with the same master who issues a prepared public statement in his paintings."

As a consequence, Dr. Lee suggested, the current exhibition is one to savor, slowly and intimately with the realization that there has been very little in the last five hundred years to compare with the draftsmanship to be seen on the Museum's walls in this show.

Michelangelo, Raphael and Leonardo are among the best-known masters on view and the museum visitor has the rare opportunity to trace, work by work, exactly how their fingers moved over the paper and to follow the thoughts which guided the pencil, pen or chalk. He will realize the unique

capacity of drawings to keep their original freshness and truth. And he can observe that this is by no means just an array of saints and madonnas, of elegant compositions and swirling draperies. There are animals here, grotesque buffoonery, sex and science, fantasy and violence.

In summary, Dr. Lee said "This collection catches in all its aspects some extraordinarily private and moving revelations." The exhibition is being circulated by the International Exhibitions Foundation and will remain on view in Cleveland until April 8. There is a fifty cent admission charge for adults; students and young people pay twenty five cents. Members are admitted free.
